

What is claimed is;

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1. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting function, comprising:

5 an image capturing unit that captures a subject image;

a setting unit that sets operating parameters related to image processing performed during image capturing;

10 a resolution conversion unit that performs resolution conversion on image data of an image captured by said image capturing unit in correspondence to a resolution set at said setting unit;

an image compression unit that performs image compression on image data converted by said resolution conversion unit in correspondence to a compression factor set at said setting unit; and

15 a continuous shooting unit that performs continuous shooting of a subject image by continuously driving said image capturing unit, said resolution conversion unit and said image compression unit, wherein:

20 said resolution conversion unit is capable of performing resolution conversion at least at a high resolution and at a low resolution that is lower than the high resolution;

25 said image compression unit is capable of performing

image compression at least at a low compression factor and at a high compression factor that is higher than the low compression factor; and

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when said continuous shooting unit executes  
5 continuous shooting, said image compression unit performs image compression at the high compression factor if the resolution at said resolution conversion unit is set to the low resolution.

10 2. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting function according to claim 1, wherein:

an instruction unit that issues instructions to ensure that said resolution conversion unit performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and said image  
15 compression unit performs image compression at the high compression factor, without having to change settings for the resolution and the compression factor that have been set by said setting unit, is provided; and

when said continuous shooting unit executes  
20 continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and said image compression unit performs image compression at the high compression factor in conformance to instructions issued at said instruction unit.

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3. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting function, comprising:

an image capturing unit that captures a subject image;

5 a setting unit that sets operating parameters related to image processing performed during image capturing;

a resolution conversion unit that performs resolution conversion on image data of an image captured by said image capturing unit in correspondence to a resolution set  
10 at said setting unit;

an image compression unit that performs image compression on image data converted by said resolution conversion unit in correspondence to a compression factor set at said setting unit; and

15 a continuous shooting unit that performs continuous shooting of a subject image by continuously driving said image capturing unit, said resolution conversion unit and said image compression unit, wherein:

said resolution conversion unit is capable of  
20 performing resolution conversion at least at a high resolution and at a low resolution that is lower than the high resolution;

said image compression unit is capable of performing image compression at least at a low compression factor and  
25 at a high compression factor that is higher than the low

compression factor; and

a1 when said continuous shooting unit executes  
continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution if  
5 the compression factor at said image compression unit is  
set to the high compression factor.

4. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting  
function according to claim 3, wherein:

10 an instruction unit that issues instructions to  
ensure that said resolution conversion unit performs  
resolution conversion at the low resolution and said image  
compression unit performs image compression at the high  
compression factor, without having to change settings for  
15 the resolution and the compression factor that have been  
set by said setting unit, is provided; and

when said continuous shooting unit executes  
continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and  
20 said image compression unit performs image compression at  
the high compression factor in conformance to instructions  
issued at said instruction unit.

5. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting  
25 function, comprising:

an image capturing unit that captures a subject image;

a setting unit that sets operating parameters related to image processing performed during image capturing;

5 a resolution conversion unit that performs resolution conversion on image data of an image captured by said image capturing unit in correspondence to a resolution set at said setting unit;

10 an image compression unit that performs image compression on image data converted by said resolution conversion unit in correspondence to a compression factor set at said setting unit; and

15 a continuous shooting unit that performs continuous shooting of a subject image by continuously driving said image capturing unit, said resolution conversion unit and said image compression unit, wherein:

20 said setting unit is capable of setting a continuous shooting speed at said continuous shooting unit at least at a normal speed and at a high speed that is higher than the normal speed;

said resolution conversion unit is capable of performing resolution conversion at least at a high resolution and at a low resolution that is lower than the high resolution;

25 said image compression unit is capable of performing

image compression at least at a low compression factor and  
a high compression factor that is higher than the low  
compression factor; and

*all  
cont*

when said continuous shooting unit executes  
5 continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and  
said image compression unit performs image compression at  
the high compression factor if the continuous shooting  
speed is set to the high speed.

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6. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting  
function according to claim 3, wherein:

an instruction unit that issues instructions to  
ensure that said resolution conversion unit performs  
15 resolution conversion at the low resolution and said image  
compression unit performs image compression at the high  
compression factor, without having to change settings for  
the resolution and the compression factor that have been  
set by said setting unit, is provided; and

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when said continuous shooting unit executes  
continuous shooting and the continuous shooting speed is  
set to the high speed, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and  
said image compression unit performs image compression at  
25 the high compression factor in conformance to instructions

issued at said instruction unit.

7. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting function, comprising:

5 an image capturing unit that captures a subject image;

a setting unit that sets operating parameters related to image processing performed during image capturing;

10 a resolution conversion unit that performs resolution conversion on image data of an image captured by said image capturing unit in correspondence to a resolution set at said setting unit;

15 an image compression unit that performs image compression on image data converted by said resolution conversion unit in correspondence to a compression factor set at said setting unit; and

20 a continuous shooting unit that performs continuous shooting of a subject image by continuously driving said image capturing unit, said resolution conversion unit and said image compression unit, wherein:

said resolution conversion unit is capable of performing resolution conversion at least at a high resolution and at a low resolution that is lower than the high resolution;

25 said image compression unit is capable of performing

image compression at least at a low compression factor and  
at a high compression factor that is higher than the low  
compression factor; and

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5 when said continuous shooting unit executes  
continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and  
said image compression unit performs image compression at  
the high compression factor.

10 8. An electronic camera having a continuous shooting  
function according to claim 7, wherein:

an instruction unit that issues instructions to  
ensure that said resolution conversion unit performs  
resolution conversion at the low resolution and said image  
15 compression unit performs image compression at the high  
compression factor, without having to change settings for  
the resolution and the compression factor that have been  
set by said setting unit, is provided; and

20 when said continuous shooting unit executes  
continuous shooting, said resolution conversion unit  
performs resolution conversion at the low resolution and  
said image compression unit performs image compression at  
the high compression factor in conformance to instructions  
issued at said instruction unit.